



National Aeronautics  
and Space Administration

**John F. Kennedy Space Center**  
Kennedy Space Center, Florida 32899

## ENVIRONMENTAL NEWSLETTER

August 1996

### Kennedy Space Center Title V Air Permit Application

On June 6, 1996, the Air Program Group of Kennedy Space Center (KSC) Environmental Program Office completed and submitted the Title V application for the air permit required by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). The due date for completing this application was on June 17, 1996. The completion of this application represents the culmination of several years of planning, information gathering, and coordination with both the FDEP regulators and the KSC air emission source operators.

When KSC receives the new Title V permit, the Center air emission sources, which are now permitted in 25 different permits, will continue in full compliance with federal and state environmental regulations under one all-inclusive Title V permit.

Since all air emission sources operated by NASA at KSC and Cape Canaveral Air Station (CCAS) have valid FDEP air operating permits, it may seem redundant for NASA to be required to obtain a new Title V air operating permit. However, there are several significant distinctions between existing state permits and Title V permits.

Although each state will manage its own Title V operating permit system, most of the states now administer their own operating permit systems. The new program was designed to expand federal government involvement. Title V of the 1990 Federal Clean Air Act Amendments requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish a program under which major sources of air pollution must obtain an operating permit which addresses all pertinent federal requirements. In addition, as new federal requirements become applicable, they will be incorporated into the Title V permits.

Each state was required to submit a proposed State Implementation Plan (SIP) to EPA for review and approval. Following approval of the Florida SIP, FDEP will begin issuing permits under the Title V program. EPA has veto authority over all state-issued Title V operating permits and may even modify or revoke permits issued by the states, in some cases. Thus, Title V permits are federally enforceable, unlike FDEP air operating permits currently held by the air emission sources at KSC.



### Environmental Program Office on the World Wide Web



The Kennedy Space Center Environmental Program Office now has a home page on the World Wide Web (WWW). The site describes the role of the Environmental Program Office, presents an organizational directory, offers the KSC Environmental Newsletter in several electronic formats, describes some of the ongoing environmental programs and initiatives at KSC, and provides links to other related environmental WWW sites. New information is continuously being added, so a "What's New?" feature provides the frequent visitor direct links to the most recent additions to the site.

Since the Environmental Program Office is the focal point for all environmental policy development and permitting activities at KSC, the site will serve as the central hub for environmental issues and will be used to disseminate information to the public as well as KSC personnel.

The address for the KSC Environmental Program Office Home Page is:

**[http://www-jj.ksc.nasa.gov/jj-d/epo\\_main.html](http://www-jj.ksc.nasa.gov/jj-d/epo_main.html)**

# Environmental Management Benchmarking Study

On July 30, 1996, Kennedy Space Center (KSC) Associate Director Alan Parrish selected the environmental management as the focus of KSC benchmarking study. The Environmental Program Office (EPO) is excited about this opportunity to identify new ideas and improve their current practices.

The selection was made following a candidate search by the NASA and Contractor Integrated Working Group. The Kennedy Benchmarking Clearinghouse (KBC) will assist the environmental process owners by facilitating meetings and finding a benchmarking partner.

What is benchmarking? There are several different definitions for the term, the KBC describes it as: *"A disciplined approach for comparing and measuring your processes against the best-in-class organizations (in any industry), identifying the "best practices" that enable their superior performance, and adapting those best practices within your own organization to achieve "breakthrough" performance improvements."*

Representatives from more than twelve NASA and contractor organizations have been meeting to organize the study, identify schedule milestones, and

begin the selection of a sub-process for the focus of the study. The estimates are that the study may take six months to complete.

In a similar initiative, the EPO has agreed to be a benchmarking partner with the Arizona Public Services Company (APSC). APSC, an equivalent to the Florida Power and Light Company, issued a list of questions and topics for their September 12, 1996 visit to KSC. This partnering effort is not representative of current benchmarking definitions, but will be a collaboration of ideas and best practices.

Representatives of Shuttle Operations, Installation Operations, Logistics Operations, General Service Administration, Safety and Reliability, United Space Boosters Incorporated, and the Base Operations Contractor will participate with EPO in presenting information on success stories and answering their questions.

APSC is a progressive company with significant accomplishments in the environmental, health and safety areas. KSC is looking forward to the upcoming visit and future opportunities to share solutions with APSC.

This newsletter was written and produced by the NASA/KSC Environmental Program Office. All comments or questions may be made by calling (407) 867-4049 or by writing to the following address:

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